

2005 Class Elections Finish After Re-Ballot

Alejandro Removed Following Complaints

By Jing-Helen Tang

STAFF REPORTER

After re-running paper balloting, the Class of 2005 has elected Daniel F. Kanamori '05 president and Rohit Gupta '05 treasurer.

All other offices were decided on Thursday, but the Undergraduate Association Judicial Review Board voted to invalidate Thursday's paper votes for President and Treasurer. Paper voting was re-run on Friday.

According to the official count, the number of students who voted via paper ballots was down 13.5 percent, from 148 on Thursday to 128 on Friday.

Alejandro removed from ballot

After Thursday's paper balloting took place, complaints were filed against several candidates, including Jesse R. Alejandro '05, candidate for treasurer, Dexter W. Ang '05, candidate for president, and Kanamori.

Several candidates reported seeing people campaigning near the ballot box in Lobby 10 on Thursday, including Alejandro. Thursday night, JudBoard voted to invalidate the paper votes and run another ballot on Friday, with Alejandro's name removed.

Candidates were explicitly told to avoid campaigning in Lobby 10, Gupta said. "I saw Jesse hanging around, but I didn't find it offensive." Gupta said that Alejandro's

removal was "unfortunate."

"I thought [Alejandro's removal] was absurd," Kanamori said. Alejandro reportedly pasted a campaign poster to his shirt while in Lobby 10, which Kanamori said "may be excessive, but by no means enough to take his name off."

Alejandro was upset by the decision. He said that he was doing his best to campaign after starting the election process late.

Candidates question JudBoard

Several candidates expressed concern over the election process itself, specifically the rulings made by JudBoard.

"The election process needs to be looked at and be improved in the future," said Craig J. Rothman '05, a former candidate for vice president. Rothman called for a more "concrete" JudBoard review system.

"JudBoard has a very, very tough job," Kanamori said. "They wanted to hurt the least people. I think it's better to conduct the voting all over."

Leah S. Schmelzer '02, the Chair of JudBoard, declined to comment on the specifics of the ruling. A formal statement will be released later this week.

Kanamori calls for school spirit

As freshman class president,

Elections, Page 19

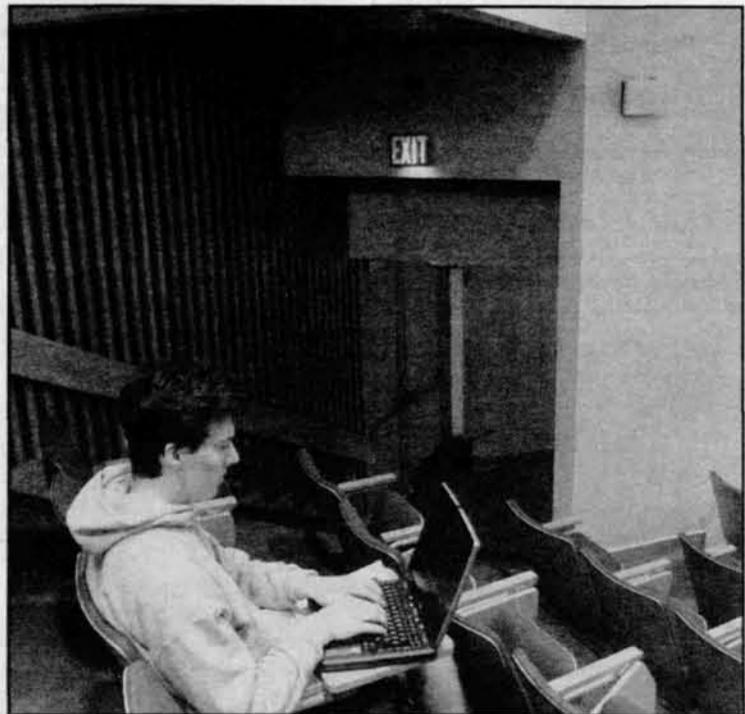
Wireless LAN Installation Complete

By Eric Berry

With the recent introduction of wireless Local Area Network, MIT students can now connect to the Internet from nearly any point on

campus. Following a small pilot program in the Sloan School of Management last year, the program has been expanded to include several hundred access locations.

MIT spent nearly \$800,000 to



Wireless ethernet is now available in many locations on campus, including classrooms and lecture halls.

Institute Dedicates New Dorm

By Maral Shamloo

MIT finally dedicated the new graduate dormitory at 224 Albany Street, commonly known as The Warehouse.

MIT President Charles M. Vest spoke at yesterday's ceremony, noting the significant contribution

the new dormitory makes toward housing graduate students on campus.

"The opening of 224 Albany St. is a huge step toward one of MIT's longstanding goals to accommodate 50 percent of graduate students on campus, and also part of general physical enhancement of campus,"



MIKE LIN—THE TECH

President Charles M. Vest recognized the efforts of architects, builders, student groups, and administrators at a dedication ceremony for the new 224 Albany Street graduate student dormitory.

Vest said.

The new dorm houses about 120 first year graduate students in studio-style apartments. Each has a small kitchen and bathroom.

Minor construction continues

Most residents were temporarily housed in the University Park Hotel while contractors finished construction. The building is fully occupied now, but work still continues.

"All the rooms were ready when we moved in, but communal areas, such as laundry, weight room and first floor lobby still needed work," said resident Arundhati Singh G, who lives in NW30. "The work is nearly finished, but there are minor jobs which still need to be done."

Since the building is not connected to MIT's main water supply yet, a temporary water tank is used to provide hot water.

"I have never experienced a shortage of hot water, but the pressure is low sometimes," said Sriprya Natarajan G, one of the dorm's eight Resident Advisors.

"We are expecting this problem to be resolved by the end of fall at latest," said Steven R. Lerman '72, housemaster of The Warehouse.

In addition to the water supply, there are currently some problems with the air conditioning. "I am not supposed to turn my A/C off and the noise drives me mad sometimes," said Sanjit Sethi G.

"There are two types of A/C in

Dedication, Page 18

Fear of Flying

Attacks Lead to Air Travel Changes

By Eun J. Lee

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

How safe would you feel flying from Logan to Dulles International, with a layover in Newark? If the person sitting next to you were of Arab descent and had a hard time speaking English, would you feel uneasy? What other thoughts might go through your head knowing that less than two weeks earlier, four planes had been hijacked from these three airports?

These questions and many others were racing through my mind this past weekend, and they were not hypothetical. I had planned a trip to visit the nation's capital weeks before the atrocious attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, at a time when many thought the biggest news of the day was Michael Jordan's rumored return to basketball. My original travel itinerary was a short one-and-a-half hour direct flight from Boston to Washington's Reagan National Airport, but these plans had to be changed since Reagan airport is still closed almost three weeks after the attacks.

For days after the attacks, I had no idea if I would even be able to fly, or if I would even want to. Some argue that it might be safer to fly now than ever before, since security has been beefed up significantly. However, I think everyone is more aware of the possible dangers associated with flying. During my trip, I found that many things had changed in the ways of air travel since the last time I flew on an airplane through Logan and Dulles, which was still less than a month ago.

New security brings new delays

If you've followed the news or been to any airline web sites, you've

Airlines, Page 16



Andrew
Selbst
checks
out Live V

Page 8



Comics

OPINION

Ken Nesmith discusses U.S. influence on world affairs in the context of the September 11 attacks.

Page 6

World & Nation 2
Opinion 4
Events Calendar 7
Arts 8

Page 5

WORLD & NATION

Pentagon Changes Defense Priorities

NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

Three weeks after the deadliest attack on U.S. soil, the Pentagon Monday restored homeland defense as its top military priority and said the mission would fall mostly to reservists and the National Guard, not active-duty forces.

Defense officials are considering appointing a single high-ranking military commander to control all homeland forces, in much the way one officer oversees all Army, Navy and Air Force units in the Middle East and other regions.

Beyond those proposals, the new four-year Pentagon strategy blueprint released Monday offered few specifics on how the military envisions defending America from another terrorist attack.

Homeland security returned to being the No. 1 priority after years of being designated a lesser military concern. Even before the Sept. 11 terror attacks, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and others said that homeland security would be a focus of the strategy blueprint, which is updated every four years.

"Certainly since the fall of the Soviet Union, there's been perceived to be no threat to the United States homeland, and on the 11th of September, that was very different and you must reconsider that," said Rear Adm. Craig Quigley, a Pentagon spokesman. "It's certainly restoring a place of prominence that may have been lost over time."

Giuliani Urges U.N. to Action

NEWSDAY

UNITED NATIONS

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani — who once said the city would do just fine without the United Nations — Monday praised the body in an address to the General Assembly, where he called for a firm international response to terror.

The mayor echoed and reinforced Bush administration positions in the aftermath of the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks, challenging the nations of the world to act with the United States to protect respect for the law and human life.

"You're either with civilization or you're with terrorism," Giuliani declared. "We're right and they're wrong. It's as simple as that."

The mayor saluted the United Nations' presence as the city recovers from the World Trade Center attacks and invited visitors to "come here now."

More than 5,000 people, "of every race, religion and ethnicity" and from 80 nations were killed in the Sept. 11 attack on "the very idea of a free, inclusive and civil society," said Giuliani, who cited the city's "strong and vibrant Arab and Muslim communities."

Church Lies Buried at Ground Zero

THE BALTIMORE SUN

NEW YORK

The heart of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church lies buried at ground zero. Precious relics sacred to the community's worship have yet to be found.

The Rev. John Romas, who has served at St. Nicholas for 17 years, can only hope that they survived the destruction that followed the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the nearby World Trade Center.

He has been to the area more than once to look for a safe containing the relics. His first visit was on the day after the attack. He found that his church, which once stood 250 feet from the center's towers, had vanished.

"My church was down on the ground. It was 15-feet-high debris," said Romas. "I started to cry, then I looked to my left side and there were so many people who had died."

Donations from as far away as Greece and Italy have poured in to help rebuild the tiny church. Additional funds are coming in as part of a general appeal by the Greek Orthodox Church in America.

Exiled Afghani King Agrees To Join in New Government

By Richard Boudreax
and John Daniszewski

LOS ANGELES TIMES

ROME

Counting on a collapse of the militant Islamist Taliban regime, Afghanistan's main opposition force and the country's 86-year-old exiled king agreed here Monday to join in forming a broad-based government open to cooperation with the West.

Under the U.S.-backed accord, the opposition Northern Alliance and the former monarch will name a 120-member Supreme Council for National Unity representing all Afghan tribes and ethnic groups, and call it into session in Rome by the end of the month.

The council will then convene a larger assembly on Afghan soil with a mandate to form a provisional government to run the country for two years and restore a constitutional democracy after more than two decades of war.

Monday's pact was a breakthrough in international efforts to build an alternative to the Taliban, which is harboring Osama bin Laden, the Muslim fundamentalist viewed by the United States as the prime suspect in Sept. 11 attacks in New York and near Washington.

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf declared Monday that the Taliban's days appeared to be numbered because of its refusal to hand over bin Laden to the United States.

A senior Pakistani diplomat said his country, the only one that still recognizes the Taliban government, is quietly working with the Bush administration to identify moderate Taliban figures who might be willing to join the new opposition council. He said he did not expect the current Afghan leader, Mullah Mohammad Omar, to remain in power.

"The fall will come from within," predicted the diplomat, who requested anonymity. "Many Taliban are questioning the wisdom of letting one man endanger the whole movement."

The new council's main task will be to convene a "loya jirga," a centuries-old form of national assembly involving hundreds or even thousands of people who ratify constitutions or elect rulers. Such an assembly was last convened in 1963.

Opposition leaders said that if the Taliban keeps control of the capital, Kabul, in coming weeks, the assembly would be held on secure ground inside Afghanistan. North-

ern Alliance troops hold nearly 10 percent of the country.

If that option proves impossible, the council could act as a provisional government in exile, opposition leaders said.

"We must be ready, if there are drastic changes in Afghanistan's political scene, to resolve our problems and fill the power vacuum," one of the former king's aides, Abdul Sattar Sirat, told reporters.

Monday's accord grew from more than two weeks of negotiations in which a stream of diplomats, Afghan resistance fighters and exiles called on Mohammad Zahir Shah, Afghanistan's last monarch, at the gated suburban villa north of Rome where he has lived most of his 28 years in reclusive exile.

The Northern Alliance has been fighting to regain power since the Taliban ousted its government, led by President Burhanuddin Rabbani, in 1996. The alliance and its armed units, dominated by ethnic Uzbeks and Tajiks minorities in the north, are hated by many Pashtuns, the dominant ethnic group and chief source of the Taliban's support, and by the minority Turkmen and Baluchi tribes in the south.

Supreme Court Refuses to Hear Case Involving Racial Profiling

By David G. Savage
LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

opened its new term.

Since the Sept. 11 terror attacks, President Bush and Attorney General John Ashcroft, among others, have been quick to say that racial profiling and religious discrimination are wrong and should not be tolerated.

But the Supreme Court has steered clear of those issues for the past decade. The justices have not issued a single ruling on racial profiling or seized a chance to clarify the line between legitimate police searches and unconstitutional racial discrimination.

They have, however, set a high bar for those who claim they are victims of racial or religious bias by the government.

Five years ago, the justices ruled

that a police officer's true motive for stopping a motorist was irrelevant. If a driver commits even a trivial violation, such as failing to fully stop at a stop sign, police officers may pull over his car, even if they are motivated by racial bias or looking for drug dealers. In the case before the court, the justices rejected a bias claim from several young black men who were pulled over for pausing too long at a stop sign.

Also in 1996, the court ruled that plaintiffs in race bias cases need actual proof, not just a statistical pattern, before they can bring a claim of unequal treatment against police and prosecutors.

When combined, the two rulings closed the courthouse doors to most claims of racial bias.

WEATHER

Work-Week Weather Reprieve

By Greg Lawson
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

There's good news for the weather ahead; it will not resemble yesterday's at all. The nasty cut-off low which brought us unseasonably chilly weather and gusty wind this weekend has finally pushed off to sea. A weak high will build into the area in its absence. This will bring us clear skies and dry air, the combination of which will allow for much warmer temperatures by day—look for high temperatures above 70° F (21° C) until Friday. Overall it should be gorgeous. There should even be a few scattered high clouds which will make for pretty sunsets.

However, as is the rule with weather in New England, it won't last long. Today a weak surface low will begin tracking due east from the Tri-otas (MN, ND, and SD). It will arrive in our area some time Thursday, but it will be forced to our north by our weak high pressure shield. Unfortunately, the low's associated cold front will still pass over us, so the clear skies end Thursday afternoon. Precipitation is unlikely on Thursday, but it is possible the front may be strengthened further Friday by a small short-wave arriving from upstream. Depending on the details, there is a chance of a small amount of precipitation on Friday. Then look for a cooler weekend.

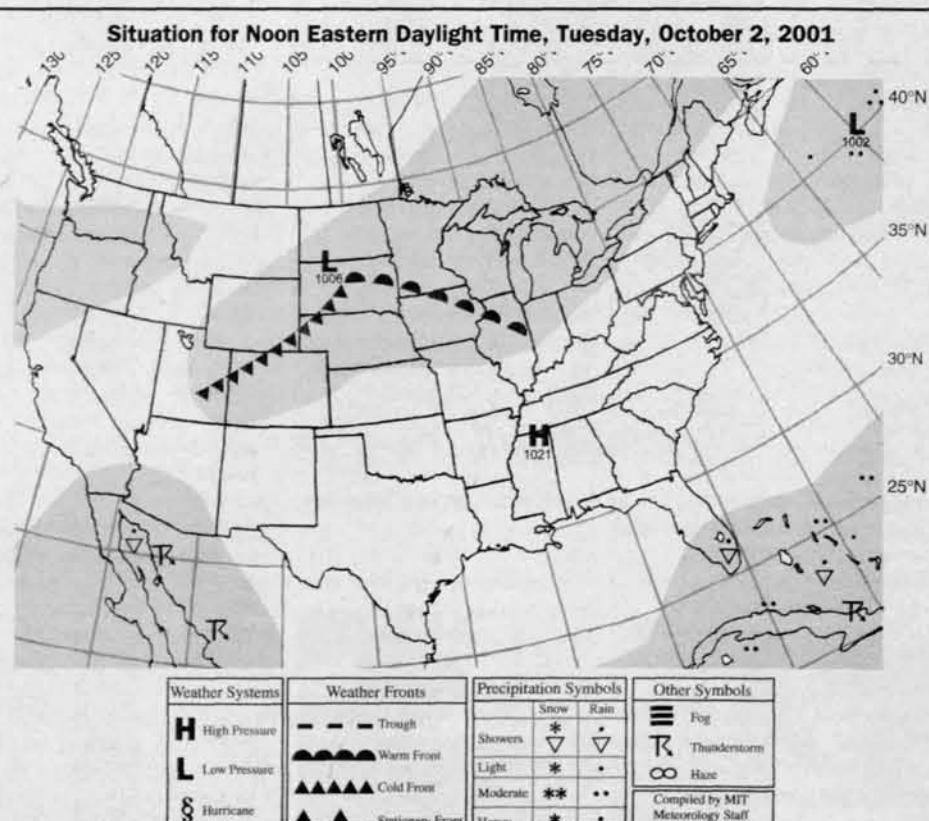
Today: Warm sunny day with mostly clear skies. Light westerly breeze. High of 75° F (24° C).

Tonight: Clear skies. Very light breeze. Low of 55° F (13° C).

Wednesday: Mostly clear skies. Winds shift to southerly. High of 73° F (23° C). Low of 57° F (14° C).

Thursday: Clouds arriving early afternoon. Increased winds. High in the low 70s F (21 - 23° C). Low in the low to mid 50s F (11 - 13° C).

Friday and Beyond: Chance of light rain on Friday. Cooler weekend to follow with mostly cloudy skies.



Precautions Against Terrorists Focused on Biological Weapons

By Joby Warrick
and Joe Stephens
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The federal government spends nearly \$800 million a year trying to predict and prepare for terrorist attacks commissioning expert studies, stockpiling supplies and staging mock exercises to test its readiness.

But the Sept. 11 attacks exposed deep flaws in the government's thinking about the methods and reach of terrorists intent on mass destruction. Over the past few years, elaborate multi-agency planning exercises with flashy names such as "Red Ex" or "Dark Winter" have consumed vast resources, while experts urging preparations for a simpler, more conventional attack found it difficult to be heard.

A review of government records shows that most of the 201 federal planning exercises in the late 1990s were aimed at defending the public against biological and chemical attacks, even as multiple studies

concluded that bombings, hijackings and other low-tech missions were far more likely.

Only a few federal exercises even came close to predicting the strategy used by terrorists in attacking New York and Washington. One expert panel commissioned by the Pentagon discussed in 1993 how an airplane could be used to bomb national landmarks. The panel decided not to publish the theory, partly in fear of inspiring terrorists.

"It was considered radical thinking, a little too scary for the times," said retired Air Force Col. Doug Menarchik, who organized the \$150,000 study for the Defense Department's Office of Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict. "After I left, it met a quiet death."

Authorities are quick to note that no amount of "war-gaming" could accurately predict the acts of determined suicidal terrorists. But the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon have heightened the

government's determination to broaden the scope of its counterterrorism planning.

Last week, Comptroller General David Walker called on federal agencies to make a coordinated effort to "prevent and deter threats to our homeland."

The General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, concluded in several studies in the late 1990s that too many federal counterterrorism programs were based on "improbable, worst-case scenarios" that presented an "exaggerated view" of the likelihood of a chemical or biological assault. Terrorists would have to overcome enormous obstacles to unleash enough biological or chemical agents to kill large numbers of people, the GAO found.

Just last year, Norman Rabkin, a national security expert for the GAO told a House subcommittee that federal efforts to combat terrorism "have been based on vulnerabilities rather than an analysis of credible threats."

FED Expected to Lower Interest Rates, Providing Economic Boost

By James Toedtman
NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

Alan Greenspan more than likely hopes that Joe Butera is a leading economic indicator.

More than 400 miles from the white marble building where the chairman of the Federal Reserve will convene his regular meeting of the Fed's open market committee Tuesday, Butera sells cars in West Islip, N.Y.

For days, Greenspan and his committee of bankers have been assessing the grim condition of the nation's staggering economy in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The attacks triggered more than 100,000 layoffs and reduced airline flights, canceled conventions and postponed vacations that have left the tourism and entertainment industries reeling. Corporate profits continue to fall, unemployment has jumped a full percentage point in the past nine months, and the stock market has fallen nearly 18 percent since January, even after its 611-point rebound last week.

But in West Islip, Butera said, car sales lately have been "just tremendous."

Butera is general manager at a

Pontiac dealership in West Islip, and sales for most of the summer had been slow and slower — reflecting the economy. But when General Motors announced a special 0 percent financing promotion last week, "it worked," Butera said.

Even Hummers, he said. Ordinarily he'll sell one of the heavy-duty British-made \$100,000 utility vehicles a month. He sold four last week.

"Consumer confidence, that's the big question," said David Huether, chief economist for the National Association of Manufacturers. "When that goes down, consumer spending goes down," and it already was falling before Sept. 11. Consumer spending accounts for two-thirds of the national economy, and in the past three weeks, consumers have stopped shopping, except for essential purchases, he said.

Most economists expect Greenspan and the committee to provide some encouragement for consumers by dropping their target interest rates by one-quarter to one-half a percentage point. That would bring effective federal funds interest rates to their lowest point since 1962 — when the average monthly

rate was 2.29 percent in May and 2.71 percent in July.

Tuesday's rate cut will be the ninth this year, as the Fed continues its intense effort to prolong the 10 years of uninterrupted economic growth. The decision, and the Fed's accompanying announcement, will be the first indication of Greenspan's assessment of the economic effect of the terrorist attacks. Just moments before the nation's stock markets reopened Sept. 17, the Fed announced a half-point cut and at the same time announced that it would ease lending for the nation's banks. But in the days that followed, Greenspan pleaded with congressional leaders to hold off on a host of proposed stimulus plans until he could better assess the full economic impact of the attack.

What is now called "the Greenspan Moment" on Capitol Hill did indeed slow the congressional race to help ailing industries and jump-start the economy. Congress did approve both \$40 billion for rebuilding New York and bolstering the nation's defenses and \$15 billion in loan guarantees and direct aid for the airlines. But it stopped at any further spending or tax cut initiatives.

Authorities Arrest Man Responsible For Death of 22 in 1986 Skyjacking

By Ken Fireman
NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

Federal authorities have arrested a man convicted of killing 22 people, including two Americans, during a botched skyjacking in Pakistan in 1986 and will bring him to trial in the United States on capital murder charges, the Bush administration said Monday.

President Bush, who announced the arrest of Zayd Hassan Safarini, acknowledged that the detained man had no connection to the al-Qaida network believed to be responsible for the Sept. 11 terror attacks. He asserted, however, that Safarini's arrest demonstrated the government's resolve to strike at terrorism on a broad front throughout the world.

"He's an example of the wider war on terrorism and what we intend to do," Bush said during an appearance at the Federal Emergency Management Agency. "The lesson of this case, and every case,

is that this mighty nation won't rest until we protect ourselves, our citizens and freedom-loving people throughout the world."

Bush, who will visit New York on Wednesday for the second time since the terror attacks when he goes to an elementary school in Chinatown, released new data that he said demonstrated "that we're making progress on many fronts" in the campaign against terrorism.

The president said federal authorities had succeeded in freezing \$6 million in bank accounts "linked to terrorist activity" since he signed an executive order last week granting new powers to attack terrorists' financial resources. He said 30 accounts linked to al-Qaida in the United States and another 20 overseas have been frozen.

More than 400 people have been arrested or detained by the FBI in its investigation of the attacks, and another 150 people believed to be "terrorists and their supporters" have been arrested in 25 other coun-

tries, Bush said.

In its campaign against Osama bin Laden, whom it blames for organizing the terror assaults, and the Afghan Taliban regime that shelters him, the administration will give assistance to anti-Taliban groups in Afghanistan, officials said.

"The United States is not going to get in the business of choosing who rules Afghanistan," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said. "But the United States will assist those who are seeking a peaceful and economically developed Afghanistan that does not engage in terrorism ... through a variety of ways which can involve political, diplomatic, military, financial — all of the above."

The arrest of Safarini on Friday came after he was freed from prison in Pakistan after serving 14 years for the 1986 hijacking, according to the Justice Department. The department said he was arrested abroad but declined to say in what country.

Clinton Suspended From Practicing Law Before Supreme Court

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Amid a thick list of orders issued Monday by the Supreme Court, one stood out:

"Bill Clinton of New York, New York, is suspended from the practice of law in this Court ... requiring him to show cause why he should not be disbarred."

Court officials said the action was the automatic result of the former president's five-year disbarment in Arkansas, a condition he agreed to last January as part of his settlement with the Whitewater independent counsel's office.

Under terms of that deal, struck with independent counsel Robert W. Ray on Clinton's last day in office, Clinton ensured he would not be criminally prosecuted for making false statements about his affair with former White House intern Monica S. Lewinsky.

The former president agreed to give up his Arkansas law license for five years and to pay a \$25,000 fine to resolve a scandal that had shadowed his last three years in office. Most critically, he acknowledged formally that he had given false testimony under oath about his relationship with Lewinsky.

Monday, the Supreme Court justices gave Clinton 40 days to convince them that he should not be permanently disbarred from practicing law before them. Clinton's private attorney, David E. Kendall, said he would argue that permanent disbarment would be too harsh a penalty.

Terrorist Attacks' Impact Felt In Developing Nations

LOS ANGELES TIMES

WASHINGTON

Developing nations are seeing their fragile economies undermined by the Sept. 11 terror attacks that have worsened endemic poverty and famine half a world away from the United States, the World Bank reported Monday.

In one of the first looks at the economic ripples from the attacks, the World Bank warned that as many as 10 million people could lose their chance to escape poverty, and tens of thousands more could starve to death as a direct consequence of the attacks in New York and near Washington, D.C.

The impact will be felt in all regions of the world, especially in countries dependent on tourism, foreign investment, remittances from citizens living abroad and exports of agricultural commodities, according to a preliminary assessment by World Bank economists.

The World Bank did not cite specific nations, but economists said the list would include countries in the Middle East, South Asia and Northern Africa where anti-American sentiment runs high.

Sub-Saharan Africa particularly will be hard hit because of continuing falling prices for cocoa, cotton and coffee, reduced income from tourism and the lack of significant personal savings or social safety nets, the World Bank said. With increased demands on funds to rebuild the western economies, the third world could also lose out on money needed for economic development. While more than 6,000 people were believed to have perished in the Sept. 11 attacks, including citizens of some 80 nations, economists expect the ultimate casualty count to be far higher.

Tech Volunteers Help in Recovery

NEWSDAY

It's not often that one is grateful to be jobless, but in the aftermath of the World Trade Center attack, that's what Eileen Shulock found herself thinking.

While she job hunts, Shulock volunteers as the head of the New York City chapter of Webgrrls International, a networking organization for women in technology and new media. Immediately after the attack, she phoned the Red Cross and offered to contact the 4,000 local Webgrrls members about volunteering to help in the rescue and recovery effort.

From there, other local tech companies and organizations got involved, and the consortium snowballed into Silicon Alley Cares (www.siliconalleycares.org), a project that has helped mobilize hundreds of volunteers, many from the tech community.

Two days after the attack, Shulock got the OK from the Red Cross to begin soliciting volunteers. She distributed an e-mail via the Webgrrls list and soon was deluged with about 600 phone calls from people wanting to help. She then began sending people to the Red Cross in round-the-clock groups of 10 to 20 to assist with such tasks as putting together computers and entering data to streamline record-keeping. One anonymous person donated an automatic rubber-stamping machine, which costs about \$500, she said.

Guru Proposes 'Yogic Flying' As Antidote for Global Terrorism

NEWSDAY

The Indian guru who brought transcendental meditation to America says he has the antidote to global terrorism.

In his first public remarks in seven years, the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi said he is summoning 40,000 yogis in India, who are trained in meditation as well as the practice of "yogic flying," to create a spiritual force field that will produce world peace and harmony.

All he needs to pull it off, he says, are a few "peace-loving billionaires in America" willing to donate \$1 billion to build housing for the group and pay their expenses.

"Today I'm challenging America," said the guru, who taught meditation to the Beatles and Mick Jagger 30 years ago. "If I had the support of money, I have all that is needed to ... completely stop all this violence."

The fund-raising campaign, which began more than a year before the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, had raised \$40 million by late last week, said Mario Orsatti, a spokesman for the Institute of Science, Technology and Public Policy at the Maharishi University of Management in Fairfax, Iowa.

OPINION

Focus on the Concrete



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OPINION

Focus on the Concrete

Logistical failures in construction projects have been the recent trend at MIT. The most glaring example is The Warehouse, the graduate dormitory officially known as 224

Editorial

Albany Street, which was finally dedicated yesterday. Some residents arrived at the building to

learn that they would not be able to move in to their rooms. Instead, they were housed at the University Park hotel a short distance away.

Students were eventually moved into their rooms, despite the fact that construction was still not complete. Although most work was finished before yesterday's dedication, the schedule for certain aspects of the project is still a mystery to the residents. For example, the hot water supply for the dorm currently sits in a temporary tank. Housemaster Steven R. Lerman '72 provided *The Tech* with only the vague timetable, saying, "We are expecting this problem to be resolved by the end of Fall at the latest."

MIT is fond of abstract visions of a new campus community and culture for 2002 and beyond, but administrators should worry less about the abstract and concentrate on the concrete.

This is not the first time that the Institute has overlooked logistics in the zeal to improve the community, and at the expense of the students currently living in these places. Renovations at Baker House ran into similar problems of delays. Two years ago, Baker house residents returning to campus for orientation were given temporary rooms in other dorms. The rush for Baker House operated out of a tent in Kresge Oval because the building was not suitable; entry into the dorm required a hard hat.

A chance for the administration to learn from these experiences faces MIT in the upcoming year. 2002 will commence the largest change to the school's residential system since the construction of Senior House, the first example of on-campus housing. All freshmen will move into

dorms; concurrently, MIT will be taking a large step towards offering Institute housing to 50% of graduate students. As such, planning and communication are imperative.

In particular, the administration must analyze the progress of construction for Simmons Hall. MIT must make a clear assessment of the time and resources needed for timely completion. Within weeks, MIT must decide whether or not to commit to completing Simmons Hall for Fall 2002. The administration must be open and honest about the hurdles to completion of the project well before freshmen arrive.

MIT should make all efforts to avoid having undergraduates supplant graduate students in campus housing, the current contingency plan if Simmons Hall is not completed on schedule. The living and learning environment at Sydney & Pacific is subpar for incoming freshmen. The distance from campus and isolation from other undergraduates does little to benefit the community in the manner that supposedly drives the Freshmen-on-Campus decision. Furthermore, a sales pitch is underway to convince this year's juniors, sophomores, and freshmen to move into Simmons Hall. Students interested in the features of the new undergraduate dorm will be disappointed to find themselves in a dorm designed for graduate students (complete with a day-care center).

If the administration commits to completing Simmons Hall by the fall, they must be willing to take all reasonable steps to meet their goal. On the other hand, if MIT comes to the conclusion that completing the dorm on time would be difficult or too expensive, then students must be included in the decision-making process to develop plan B. As the contingency plan may affect graduate students, they must be included in discussions as well. The Institute must learn from the mistakes that it made with The Warehouse, and not repeat them with Simmons Hall. The only way this stands a chance is if the administration is realistic in its future planning.

Letters To The Editor

One More In the Ring

I'm sorry your reporter was apparently unable to connect with me in time for the deadline for your story on the City Council race. The only MIT alum on the council is retiring, and as far as I know, I'm the only one running.

Many of the candidates (including me) have web pages linked to <http://www.rwinters.com/>. More information on candidates will also be available in the *Cambridge Chronicle*, which will have a special section on October 17th with a statement from each candidate.

Steven Jens '98

Candidate for Cambridge City Council

War on Drugs Is Senseless Battle

Now, perhaps more than ever, there is an even stronger case for changing our government's position on the "War on Drugs."

In addition to disenfranchising hundreds of thousands of non-violent citizens, wasting our tax dollars on programs that get larger and deliver fewer results each year, and helping the spread of corruption among our police officers, the prohibition of marijuana and other substances creates a black market, which is an easy source of funding for terrorists.

Yes, that's right. Terrorists profit directly from America's "War on Drugs." They grow crops and sell them at the black market's outrageously inflated prices. That's exactly what the Taliban was doing until this year,

when George Dubya handed over 40 million dollars to coax them to stop. They destroyed the crops, but how much do you want to bet they will start right up after Bush pulls any future funding?

Ending the "War on Drugs" would remove the threat of prison from people who don't belong there, generate tax dollars that aren't there now, and pull money right out of the terrorist's pockets.

Christopher Palkow

Erratum

In an interview with President Charles M. Vest which was published on September 14, *The Tech* quoted Vest as saying that he thinks the general public will see the National Missile Defense as a high priority for the nation. In fact, Vest said that he doesn't think the general public will see the National Missile Defense as a high priority at the current time.



Opinion Policy

Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, executive editor, news editors, features editor, and opinion editors.

Dissents are the opinions of the signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Columns and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m.

two days before the date of publication.

Letters and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. No letter or cartoon will be printed anonymously without the express prior approval of *The Tech*. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

To Reach Us

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest

Something Lost, Something Gained?

Ken Nesmith

Things have pretty much gotten back to normal at MIT. Frat boys are getting drunk again, kids are doing meaningless homework all night, ATO is getting kicked out of their house, the UA is messing up another election, and student government is sparring recreationally with the administration over the student life complaint *du jour*: meals, and whether or not students have to eat them. The normality is nearly as palpable as it is nauseating.

Even the white banners in lobby 10, which members of the MIT community used for purposes as eclectic as remembering loved ones, expressing feelings of sorrow or loss, and calling for the death of Timothy McVeigh's family, have finally been taken down for archiving. The weather hasn't missed a beat, defaulting back to its cold, dark gray as the leaves prepare their final colorful goodbyes. Inevitably, time has softened the passions and emotions concerning the events of September 11. Human interest pieces in the various media reveal that for those who have experienced direct, personal loss, the initial shock and confused sadness merely give way to a more profound, lasting life change that only matures over time. However, for those whose relationship with the victims in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania extends no further than living in the same country, the distractions provided by everyday life have all but superceded the past few weeks' brief orgasm of mourning and patriotism.

I can't say I precisely understand just what happened in the minds of those citizens, millions of them, who saw fit to fervently express such feelings of grief and sorrow for the deaths of the few thousand victims, and reacted to this loss with blind patriotism. Let's think carefully about this for a moment. America sponsors groups whose activities are terrorist in nature whenever it is in our interest to do so. We have no qualms about investing our well-funded military might wherever in the world we have some national interest at stake. We alone spend on our military more than the next 15 nations combined, and 23 times as much as those 7 nations the Pentagon has listed as likely enemies. Our foreign aid, the paltry one-tenth of one percent of GDP that it is, is dedicated primarily to buying weapons for others.

It is not much of a stretch to imagine the twin towers in New York as phallic symbols. We use these great tools to have our way with the world, spreading our seed of free trade to other nations, on our terms, regardless of whether or not they are willing partners.

bols. With the help of global institutions designed to increase the profit potential of global corporations, we use these great tools to have our way with the world, spreading our seed of free trade to other nations, on our terms, regardless of whether or not they are willing partners. Now, someone has taken a violent swipe at our heady confidence, and they've landed a blow. That other human beings saw fit to dance in celebration about this, or at least felt that we deserved it, should wake us to the possibility that we are not as righteous and God-blessed as we like to think, while we wave our Wal-Mart supplied flags, pledge allegiance, and intone national hymns of patriotism. All of these points, even when investigated in greater depth with incontrovertible evidence and cogent arguments, are commonly dismissed as the ranting of the radical left, as if this act of categorizing the arguments negates them in any meaningful way.

However, I'm not seeking to prove that we are an evil country, nor that American capitalism is poisoning the world. I would not be so presumptuous as to suggest that I understand the genuine, practical impact that our foreign and economic policies have on people's lives well enough to issue some grand, judgmental dictation of what is best for the world. The arrogance and overconfidence of those who do is astounding. The phenomenon of free trade is an interesting one, and it is beneficial to all involved if practiced in a proper manner. But there are only two facts I need consider to leave me in earnest confusion over the collective thoughts of the nation, and neither of them could be categorized as anything other than simple, disturbing truths.

It is not much of a stretch to imagine the twin towers in New York as phallic symbols. We use these great tools to have our way with the world, spreading our seed of free trade to other nations, on our terms, regardless of whether or not they are willing partners.

On September 11, thousands of Americans died.

On every day since September 11, thirty-five thousand children have starved to death or otherwise unnecessarily perished. Why, then, was their a sudden and dramatic reaction to a comparatively small loss of life? In both cases, the victims were innocent and undeserving of their fate — especially in the case of the children. Perhaps it is because

this was intentional murder, instead of death by inaction. Perhaps it is because we did not expect these people to die, while we've come to accept the death of innocent children as, to perfect the art of euphemism, economic necessity. Perhaps it is because we have found an identifiable, Muslim-extremist target who is easy to passionately hate, whereas the dollars in our wallets and the will in our minds to protect these children are less easily loathed. Perhaps the visibility and immediacy of this act of violence, set in familiar places, resonated with us and plant-

On September 11, thousands of Americans died.

On every day since September 11, thirty-five thousand children have starved to death...

ed more firmly in our minds the terrible reality of unearned death, while the foreign, unidentifiable suffering that plagues so much of the world is easily relegated to the irrelevant. Ads from humanitarian organizations that depict suffering in foreign countries and appeal for help are common targets of satire. What if aid groups were to run ads featuring footage of terrorist attacks on America, similarly seeking help?

Clearly the idea is absurd, but nonetheless, I don't suspect we'd be laughing them off. Part of the privilege of being American is the ability to live our lives without thinking about such things. The cultural shells we build around ourselves protect us well from reality. At least once, and more likely several times over, we make a choice either to dedicate ourselves to easing these profound miseries, or instead to living the otherwise full and comfortable lives that so many in America live. Choosing the first option shatters for us the illusion that we live in a just world, and opens us to an unending torrent of frightening realities that wear on us for as long as we live. Such asceticism is rare.

Choosing the second option means first resigning and then blinding ourselves to the inevitability of this unfortunate situation. We pursue our own cares and interest as we please, only pausing to reflect on tragedy when it strikes close to home, and otherwise living a respectable, content, and meaningful life. Either way, we'll feel like we've lost something in our lives, be it honesty or bliss, and we'll be correct. In simple sincerity, it's not an easy choice to make.

“P”s And “Q”s

says so. Holding doors open and subsequent thanking is pretty good, as it's easy to remember, but it's still something to keep in mind. Ironically, something more fundamental than most other kindnesses — responding to greetings with a hello and a smile — is often less common. I'd say about two-thirds of my greetings are unrequited (and almost a hundred percent of anything more I try, but that's another lament). It rather detracts from the humanity of this place when hellos are returned with furrowed brows and glassy gazes.

Don't litter. When the Athena clusters are really busy, and you don't really need to be

Take your laundry out of the washers and driers promptly after the end of the cycle. Not many people enjoy rifling through other people's personal garments... at least, they shouldn't. Keep the music and bellowing or screeching laughter to a minimum.

playing games or frivolously messaging people while others need to print out their paper before class, get some fresh air outside. Say please and thank you to the Aramark people. Be nice to office staff.

At your place of residence: Take your laundry out of the washers and driers promptly after the end of the cycle. Not many people enjoy rifling through other people's personal garments (at least they shouldn't). Keep the music and bellowing or screeching laughter to a minimum. Throw up in the toilet rather than in the

sink. Clean up messes in the kitchen, bathroom, and common areas. Expecting, if not demanding, that the custodians look after our careless and wanton messes isn't cool; appreciating their presence with greetings and gratitude is much better. When making unsolicited calls upon people in their rooms, read the subtle signs and leave in a timely fashion. If you say or do something especially mean during times of stress-induced crankiness, apologize later.

Shower daily. This is also applicable for any of the other sections, especially for in the classroom; you might not notice it, but it's not fun for others sitting in the vicinity. Online:

What's lacking in real-life social graces on campus is probably more than compensated for by our general savvy of online protocols and manners. Most don't need to be mentioned. A couple of suggestions: don't demand that people respond to Instant Messages immediately, if at all, even if they don't leave an away message. People use the medium differently — as a message board, as a substitute for life, or exclusively for vainly flirting with distanced acquaintances.

Lists such as this seem nagging, but it's really nothing more than a list of ideas on how we could make the quality of life better for ourselves and others on a daily level. It's not even about the ideas, but it's instead mostly a matter of making a conscientious effort to realize what we're saying and doing, and what we're not saying or doing. Fixing all sources of frustration and pet peeves starts with making sure we aren't a source of them ourselves.

All Work And No Play...

Akshay Patil

It seems that these days college students have too much on their minds besides academics. Instead of spending their time on the pursuit of filling their head with precious knowledge, they splurge their youth on hedonistic pursuits.

I don't know if you've heard about some of these activities youths engage in. What you're reading right now is an appalling example of what happens when students don't do schoolwork. They end up flooding their campus with tree-consuming pieces of paper with worthless news and bombastic opinions, which only serve to distract peers from their own academics. Valuable computing resources and potential teaching space go into the production of an insidious publication responsible for usurping some of the student body's valuable time. Even now I am wasting valuable studying time in order to impress upon you the dire straits we are in.

Then there are those students who take it upon themselves to waste entire weekends doing community service or something else equally far-fetched. Do you think parents shell out an obscene amount of money for their child's tuition in order to have him or her running off on the weekends to go help others? No, you don't. This is pure irresponsibility on the student's part. All time spent on this illustrious campus should be dedicated to academics and the furthering of knowledge.

School is a place of work. Those of you reading this should be ashamed; you should be off doing integrals or circuits or something truly constructive like that. We're not here to enjoy ourselves, for heaven's sake; we're here to work.

And don't get me started on this rampant computer virus known as the "Instant Messenger." This little device is almost the root of all evil, allowing students around the world to engage in pointless conversations from their workstations. Some even use this tool of Satan to organize non-academic activities. Will the insanity never end? Students should not waste time interacting with each other; it only promotes an atmosphere inconducive to studying.

School is a place of work. Those of you reading this should be ashamed; you should be off doing integrals or circuits or something truly constructive like that. We're not here to enjoy ourselves, for heaven's sake; we're here to work. Engaging in anything else is a waste of valuable time.

Worst of all is sleep. There is nothing in this world that I can think of that is less constructive than sleep. Most disturbing, however, is the vast majority of students here who engage in this disgusting practice. How do you expect to learn when you're unconscious? Just pathetic. There are those who do try to avoid this nasty habit, but a visit to any Athena cluster will show you the many unsuccessful warriors, hunched at their computers, drooling onto the keyboards. They should be lauded in their attempts to fully immerse themselves in the world of academia, but they shouldn't accept their failure, and must continue to strive for the day when they can spend their entire life doing nothing but work.

Yes, modern college students are just despicable in their flagrant disrespect of knowledge. Their clubs, socializing, meetings, and sleeping are a vicious slap in the face of the educational community. It is for this reason that we must endeavor to destroy this "balance" that many around us seem to exhibit. The sickening allocation of time for activities other than work and learning shall not be tolerated. True learning comes from locking yourself in a box with your textbooks and problem sets and not emerging except to attend classes. Nothing else must be allowed. We are here for work only; pleasure and sanity are for the weak and the dastardly.

I salute those of you who continue to strive for this scholastic nirvana. A day with anything besides class and work is a day wasted. Fun has no place here at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; if you find yourself enjoying your time here, you must be doing something wrong.

Roy Esaki

When life gets overly hectic and stressful, it's easy to disregard the social lubricant of etiquette amidst graver concerns of assignments and chores. As a testament to the ease of their neglect, P's and Q's are so named because grammar school children had trouble distinguishing the two if they weren't properly mindful of the rules. There's much complaint about administrative policies and sociopolitics, but everyday manners and interactions cumulatively make a more direct impact on the quality of life.

Pet peeves differ, and some may feel that there's nothing wrong with some of the following, but there are general oversights which warrant occasional airing.

During class: If you're one of the earlier ones to arrive at a lecture or if you're sitting with friends, don't sit in the aisle seats, especially in the center sections with the greatest number of adjoining seats. It might be convenient to get out a couple of seconds faster at the end of class, but forcing other people to hurdle and writhe over you isn't very nice for either party, unless you're that desperate for physical contact. Make your cell phone vibrate, not ring, if you need it at all. Don't talk during the lecture.

If you need to talk to the instructor at the end of class, be mindful of the other students. Often a student who just needs to have a form signed and is already late for the next class waits for a student wanting to nit-pick semantics. That's not nice.

During the day: If the Tech Shuttle is crowded, move to the end of the bus, for the same reason that one should move to the middle of a row of seats. That, and the bus driver

COMICS FUN PAGES

Page
6

October 2,
2001

matandsolar



matandsolar@mit.edu

*Please note: This is a comic. Do not send e-mail telling me how brains cannot superconduct. I know.



MIT3K by ToastyKen "Commencement"



Review the MIT3K archives: <http://www.subjunctive.net/mit3k/>

Dilbert®
by Scott Adams



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Crossword Puzzle**Solution, page 18**

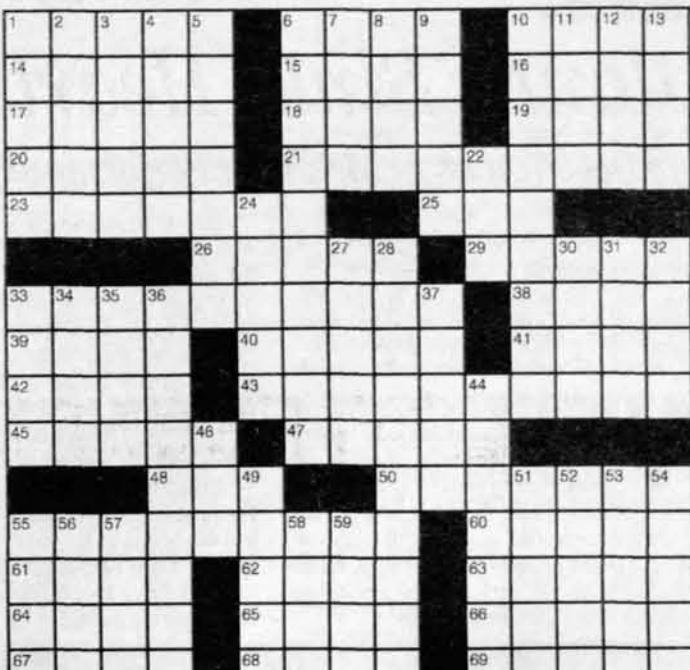
ACROSS

- Pleasantly flavorful
- Prevarications
- __ off it!
- Harden
- Milky gem
- Prayer ending
- Outer reaches
- Peak in Greece
- W. alliance
- Actress Davis
- Arch pieces
- Actress Parsons
- Attila the __
- Author of "Burr"
- Explosive liquid, briefly
- Leaves to chance
- Nickel or dime
- Shaving-cream additive
- Scheduled next

DOWN

- Verdi opera
- Rugged vehicle
- Paar's predecessor
- Bars between wheels
- Body of water
- Essence
- Horse breed
- Under the skin
- Art school
- Christmas decoration
- "Othello" villain
- Sacred ceremonies
- Home of the first family?
- Welsh valley
- Man in the field
- Has to
- Lateral part
- Thaws

- Blockade
- Peruvian range
- Sound of Washington
- Goddess of peace
- Anne of "My Favorite Year"
- Investigated
- dixit
- Gentling word
- Sword stroke
- Conforming to orthodox rules
- Arabian sultante
- Dole (out)
- Slaughter in Cooperstown
- Very large barrel
- Ritz rides
- Nahuatl speaker
- Ignore
- Work hard



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Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Tuesday, October 2

12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. - **Architecture Faculty and Staff Concert**. Professors John Fernandez, Stephen Senturia and William Porter, and staff members Jose Arguello, Rebecca Chamberlain, and Anne Rhodes perform Bach, Chopin, Purcell, Brahms, Schubert, Schumann, Rachmaninoff, and Mechem.. free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **Excel User Group**. The M.I.T. Excel Users Group meets September - June on the first Tuesday of the month from 12:00p.m. to 1:00p.m. in building n42-DemoCenter. It's purpose is to provide a means of support for members of the MIT community. The topic for each months meeting will be announced in a mailing to all members of the list. The meeting format is as follows. The first fifteen minutes is for new issues, future topics suggestions and Q&A followed by a thirty minute presentation to be followed with 15 minutes of Q&A on the presentation. All levels of users are encouraged to attend. . free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - **Dibner Institute Luncheon Colloquium**. New Perspectives on Roman Baths and Hygiene and Their Technology. free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.

3:30 p.m. - **Women's Tennis vs. Brandeis**. free. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Nanostructures Seminar Series**. In collaboration with the MTL VLSI Seminar Series: "Near Field Photolithography: Exploring the Resolution Limits of Patterning with Light". free. Room: Edgerton Hall, 34-101 (refreshments served at 3:30 pm). Sponsor: Nanostructures Laboratory.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Molecular Orientation and Dynamics of Flexible Polymers in Strongly Deforming Flow**.

H.L.M.D. Seminar Series. free. Room: Room 3-270. Sponsor: Fluid Mechanics Seminars.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **EEM Seminar: Poroplastic Properties of Calcium Leached Cement-Based Materials**. Calcium Leaching of cementitious materials is a main concern in durability design of concrete structures. Especially in the nuclear waste storage industry, where concrete will be used as a building material to last over several hundreds of years, the relatively slow process of Calcium leaching can become critical. This paper reviews new experimental evidence on our recent test results obtained in triaxial testing and microscopic investigation of calcium leached cement pastes and mortars. The behavior of the materials are analyzed in some details, at different scales, in hydrostatic compression and triaxial compression. By way of conclusion, we propose a poroplastic constitutive model for calcium leached cement-based materials, which may well be used for a safe design for concrete structures subjected to severe chemical softening. . free. Room: 1-350. Sponsor: Engineering & Environmental Mechanics Group.

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - **2002 Truman Scholarships Informational Meeting**. Are you considering a career in government, education, or other public service sector? Find out how you can apply for a \$30,000 scholarship during the fall of your junior year. Qualified seniors may also apply. Scholarships are awarded to juniors for use during senior year and graduate school.. free. Room: Room E51-095. Sponsor: History Office.

4:30 p.m. - **"Two Tales of a City: Urbanization and Labor Migration in Mozambique, Southern Africa"**. A session of the Inter-University Seminar on International Migration.. free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - **Topology and Analysis of Manifolds with Corners: Introductory Talk**. Organizers: M. Hop-

kins, R. Melrose, H. Miller and I.M. Singer. free. Room: 2-131. Sponsor: Topology and Analysis of Manifolds with Corners. Department of Mathematics.

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - **Opening Reception-ID/entity: Portraits in the 21st Century**, Science and technology are radically transforming how we define personhood and portray the human subject. Through nine projects produced in collaboration with the MIT Media Lab, "ID/entity: Portraits in the 21st Century" investigates how portraiture as an artistic genre intersects with new technological possibilities, from the sinister images created by surveillance cameras to the abstract beauty revealed by behavioral capturing devices. Artists: Edith Ackerman; Stefan Agamanolis; JD Beltran; Merce Cunningham; Kelly Dobson; Marc Downie; Shelley Eshkar; Paul Kaiser; Youngmoo Kim; Richard Kostelanetz; Raffi Krikorian; Hyun-Yeul Lee; Nora Ligorano; Joan Logue; Joe Paradiso; Marshall Reese; Rebecca Reich; Julia Scher; Steven Smith; Jeff Talman; Nicholas Yu. Judith Donath, director; Christina Yang, curator. free. Room: Media Lab (E15). Sponsor: Media Lab.

6:30 p.m. - **Nature and Architecture**. Architecture lecture by Takashi Yamaguchi, architect, Osaka.. free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

Wednesday, October 3

11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - **MIT EXCELLENCE Awards**. MIT Rewards and Recognition Program celebrates its first annual MIT EXCELLENCE Awards to honor exceptional contributions made by MIT staff. Up to 40 individuals and teams will be awarded.. free. Room: Wong Auditorium. Sponsor: MIT Rewards and Recognition Program, Human Resources.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **PowerPoint Quick Start**. PowerPoint makes it easy to jazz up your presentations. Get an introduction to what PowerPoint can do. Find out how to create shows. Learn how to use drawing tools, graphics, and create handouts.. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **"Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminar**. free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

4:00 p.m. - **"Information meeting on grant opportunities in social sciences."**. General information meeting on grants available through the Center for International Studies. MIT graduate students in Economics, STS, Political Science, DUSP, and other social sciences encouraged to attend.. free. Room: E38-615. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - **Hook length formula and geometric combinatorics**. Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in Room 2-349. free. Room: Room 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

7:00 p.m. - **Water Polo vs. Harvard**. free. Room: Alumni Pool. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - **Renaissance Dancing**. There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice. From Italian balli to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. free. Room: W20 (Sala or 407 or 491). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - **South Asian Cinema Series**. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Foreign Languages & Literatures, International Film Club.

8:00 p.m. - **Indian Cinema: "Encounters with Modernity"**. "Shatranj Ke Khilari" (Satyajit Ray), Indian Film Series.. free. Room: Rm 4-237. Sponsor: International Film Club, Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies.

Thursday, October 4

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - **2001 MIT Engineering Conference: MEMS (EVENT POSTPONED)**. EVENT POSTPONED

1. Sponsor: Microsystems Technology Laboratories, Office of Corporate Relations/ILP.

12:00 p.m. - **MIT Chapel Concert**. Ronald Dynneson, harpsichord. Suites of Froberger, D'Anglebert, Couperin and Bach.. free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - **BrioQuery Quick Start**. Learn how to download, install, and set up BrioQuery on your desktop. Learn how to download and process a standard report. An overview of the features and capabilities of BrioQuery will be given.. free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - **Time Management and Organization**. Planning sets you free! This workshop will help you to organize your time for maximum efficiency.. free. Room: W20-491. Sponsor: Learning Strategies.

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - **SAP User Group**. free. Room: E25-111. Sponsor: Information Systems.

4:00 p.m. - **Women's Soccer vs. Curry College**. free. Room: Steinbrenner. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

4:00 p.m. - **Women's Tennis vs. Tufts**. free. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - **Adaptive Observations and the Ensemble Kalman Filter**. free. Room: 54-1611. Sponsor: MIT Atmospheric Science Seminars.

4:15 p.m. - **M.I.T. Physics Colloquium**. The Ekpyrotic Universe. free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

4:15 p.m. - **HST Biomedical Engineering Seminar Series**. The Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology (HST) presents the third of four seminars on biomedical optics, focusing on the multidisciplinary research at MGH's Wellman Laboratories of Photomedicine. Johannes F. de Boer, PhD, Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School and MGH's Wellman Labs, speaks on "Optical Imaging of Flow and Birefringence." . free. Room: E25-111. Sponsor: HST.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - **"Developing 3D Lubrication Model for Twin Land Oil Control Ring"**. Sloan Automotive/Energy Systems Seminar Series, Fall 2001. Refreshments at 3:45 pm. free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Sloan Automotive Laboratory.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - **Demand and Demand Models in Revenue Management Applications**. ORC Fall Seminar Series. Seminar followed by reception in E40-106.. free. Room: E56-270. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - **Alanis Obomsawin Colloquium** . free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Women's Studies Program, Comparative Media Studies.

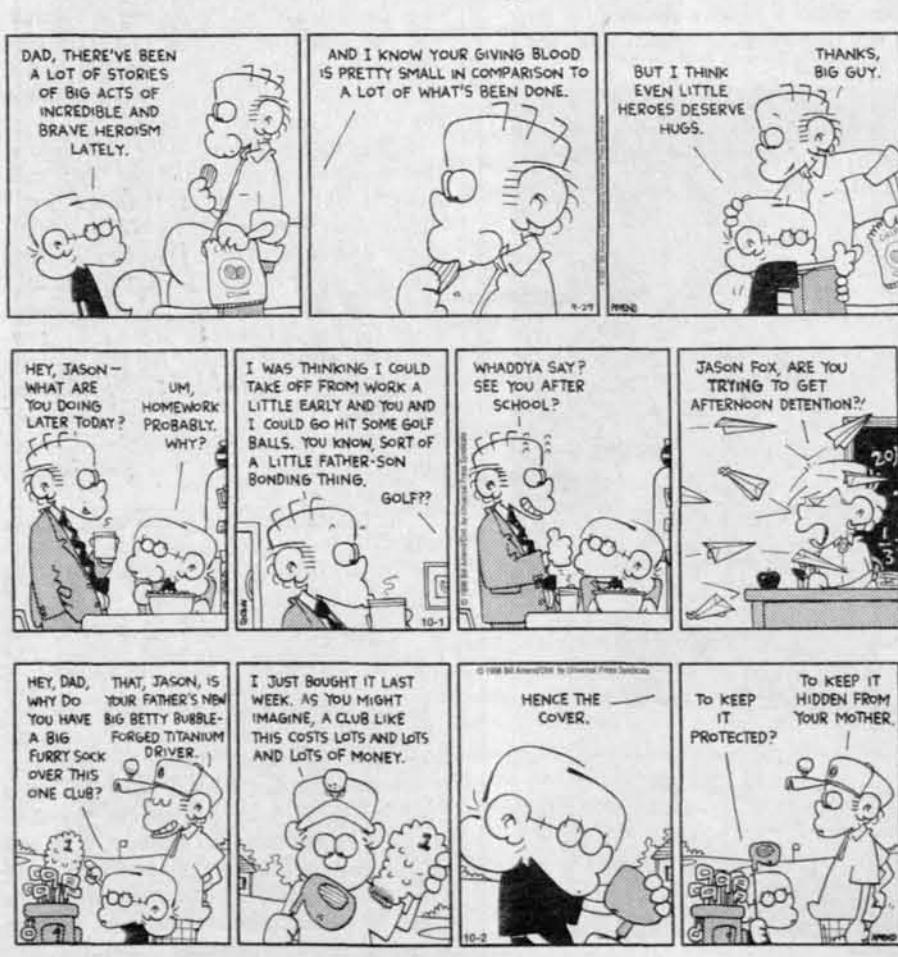
5:00 p.m. - **Field Hockey vs. UMASS Dartmouth**. free. Room: Barry Turf Field. Sponsor: Department of Athletics.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - **MIT Teach-Ins on the Crisis**. United States Policy Options.-Discussion led by Professor Richard Samuels, Director, MIT Center for International Studies (informal dinners for interested students, faculty and staff will follow each Teach-In) Sponsored by the MIT Center for International Studies in cooperation with the Political Science Department, Boston Review, Foreign Languages and Literatures Section, Science, Technology, and Society Program, Comparative Media Studies Program, Economics Department, and the Dean's Office, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.. free. Room: MIT Bldg. 26, Room 100. Sponsor: Center for International Studies.

7:45 p.m. - **MIT Women's Chorale: First Rehearsal**. All women in the MIT community are welcome to join. New members accepted until October 18.. free. Room: Emma Rogers Room (10-340). Sponsor: MIT Women's Chorale.

8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. - **IFilm Movie Seminar**. free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, International Film Club.

8:00 p.m. - **An Evening with Moisés Kaufman, Playwright and Director**. Abramowitz Memorial Lecture by the director of The Tectonic Theater Project will discuss his two latest works: Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde and The Laramie Project as well as the theories and techniques that led to them. Reception follows. free. Room: Wong Auditorium. Sponsor: Office of the Arts. MIT Theater Arts Section.

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

THE ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW

Atlantis Sinks Hearts

Hopkins Drowns in Mediocre Performances, Script

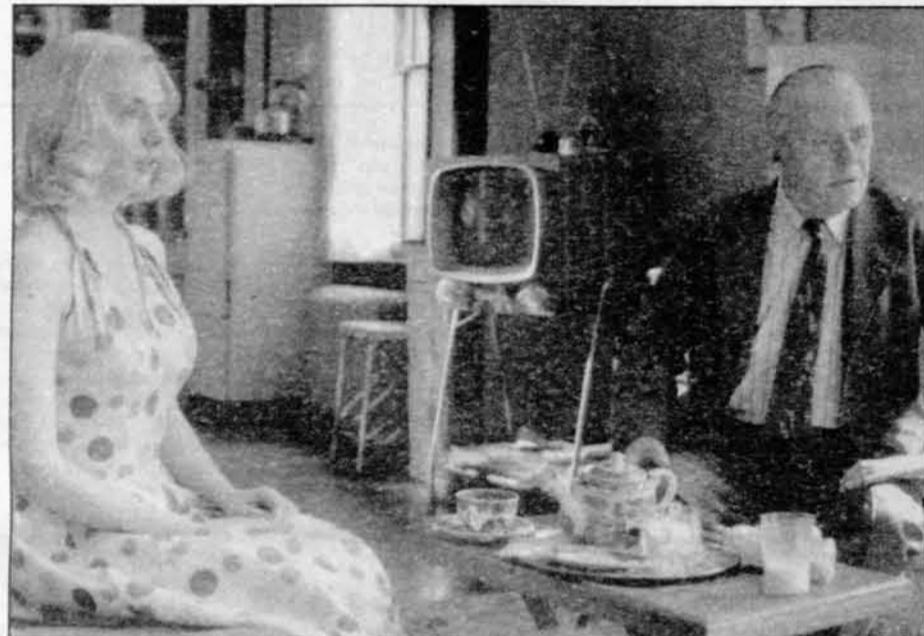
By Dan Robey

*Based on the novel by Stephen King
Starring Anthony Hopkins, David Morse,
Hope Davis
Rated PG-13*

When Ted Brautigan (Anthony Hopkins) says, "I wouldn't have missed a single minute of it, Bobby, not for the whole world," at the end of *Hearts of Atlantis*, one feels his sorrow, but only for the time lost watching this movie. Beautiful cinematography and powerful actors like Hopkins barely disguise the emptiness beneath this film's glittering exterior.

Hearts in Atlantis is a coming-of-age film with a hint of the supernatural. During a fateful summer, young Bobby Garfield (Anton Yelchin), who is neglected by his widowed mother, befriends a mysterious visitor named Ted. As the story unfolds, glimpses of Ted's strange power gleam in the summer sunlight that illuminates half of the film. The other half contains long, pregnant silences that pretend to be deep and suspenseful.

Atlantis brings the watcher to the magical places that children find in summer happiness, and this is one of the only places where the film shines. Days of wonder in golden forests and young summer love fill the air with promise and hopes that are dashed in the scenes that follow.



Hope Davis (left) and Anthony Hopkins star in *Hearts of Atlantis*.

PHIL BRAY

The profound force Hopkins brings to the film bounces off poor performances and banal dialogue. Many of the scenes between Bobby and his childhood sweetheart (Mika Boorem, *The Patriot*) feel forced, as if the two are amateurs reading the script for the first time. The best part of David Morse's performance as the adult Bobby is the look on his face when Hopkins defines the word "flatulence" in a very vocal fashion.

Bobby's mother (Hope Davis) is one of the few characters that do not seem completely flat. She lies to Bobby about his dead father, completely distrusts Hopkins, and is completely self-absorbed. What little money the family has, she spends on herself, buying new dresses and giving her son a free library card for his birthday. She works in a terrible job with virtually no future, and her boss constantly hits on her. Her reactions to situations are the most realistic moments of the film, considering that everyone else is lost in a world in which seconds stretch to minutes, and even the vaguest statements carry immense meaning. While all the others are starry-eyed, pondering Ted's truisms, she responds convincingly to her environment.

Some intriguing notions in the film deserve more exploration. Ted's mental powers allow him to see others' thoughts, as if through a window into their minds. Shadowy figures hunt him, apparently to harness this power to their own ends. His powers can pass to another person with a single touch, a peculiarity which brings about a brilliant carnival scene in which Bobby outwits a card shark. We are never told how long this "window of insight" lasts, or how he first discovered his abilities.

Hearts in Atlantis is betrayed by its script and actors. Writer William Goldman chose to forgo interesting technical details for endless, saccharin dialog. The few poignant moments don't elevate the movie enough to make it worthwhile. Subplots weave in and out of the film, destroying the cohesion that is realized only through predictable motions. The only things a viewer takes from this film are the beautiful photography, and the feeling that he just lost two hours of his life.

MUSIC REVIEW

Live's V

Fifth Album Full of Love

By Andrew Selbst

Most people will remember Live as the band which wrote "Lightning Crashes", "Selling the Drama", and "I Alone". Though Live's fifth album, *V*, is new and interesting, it still cannot live up to the legacy of *Throwing Copper*.

However, this is not an album without merit. It is comprised of fifteen songs (fourteen and a hidden track), which flow well together. As a whole, the album is Live's statement that they can change with the times and technology. The album is centrally focused around the theme of the necessity for love in the world. The first few songs set up that need for love. Then comes the frustration at misunderstanding, to which lead singer Ed Kowalczyk says he has an answer. The twelfth cut on the album, "OK?", shows anger at the messed-up world, which Kowalczyk comes to terms with in the next song, "Overcome." The last track, "Hero of Love", brings us almost full circle thematically.

Live has legacy of combining a relatively uncomplicated string of guitar chords and lyrics into catchy rock songs, with well defined choruses and clear lyrics. Some of their lyrics are refreshingly straightforward, demonstrated beautifully by the chorus of their first full song on the album, "Simple Creed" ("Cuz we need each other. We gotta love each other"). The entire song's message is summed up in two lines.

In contrast to their fourth album, which tried to mimic the style of their first, this album implements interesting new techniques. In "Deep Enough", Kowalczyk's lyrics come very fast, and sound as if they were spoken rather than sung. The hidden track is a remix of that same song, but faster and synthesized. The version contains more effects, and Kowalczyk raps the lyrics, a welcome departure from their regular style.

Along with the style changes come a shift in lyrics. Many of the songs on *V* have more poetic lyrics than tracks those on their previous albums. "OK?" explodes with rage and frustration: "It's our world and I'm on fire with anger and desire not the kind that they feed to me with their emptiness and greed greed greed".

There is also more variety on their latest album, such as the ballad "Overcome," which Live released in commemoration of the events of September 11, and "Intro," in which Kowalczyk simply speaks the lyrics in a harsh voice.

Overall, Live's latest album marks a positive change from their first four albums. The band will be performing tonight with Jane's Addiction at the Centrum in Worcester.



CONCERT REVIEW

Technical Mastery, Skill, and Artistic Zeal

Metamorphosen Chamber Orchestra Stuns in Season Opener

By Amy Meadows

STAFF WRITER

From sadness to joy, from traditional to modern, the Metamorphosen Chamber Orchestra's music and style spans many extremes. Whatever your preconceived notions are of chamber orchestras, Metamorphosen is sure to break it. In its first concert of the season, the chamber orchestra proved that a combination of innovation, style, and talent is thrilling.

The evening began with a short but poignant nod to the events of September 11. The group's composer-in-residence, Jeffery Cotton, was in his New York office across from the south tower of the World Trade Center on the day of the tragedy. He was evacuated from the building, only to learn later that it was destroyed when the towers collapsed. After spending several days aiding rescue workers, he retreated to his Jersey City home to reflect. What came out during this time was the first piece, "Elegy." Explaining his conception of the composition, Cotton remarked, "It's about the emotion and loss — not about the violence."

The highest power of art is to evoke a unity with other humans; "Elegy" connected all those in the audience each other. Sad and slow, the piece brought another dimension to the tragic event. In lieu of applause, the audience and orchestra observed a moment of silence at the end of the piece.

The next selection, John Adams' "Shaker Loops," is in many ways an experimental minimalist piece, consisting of many repetitive elements and small variations over time. Adams is one of the most renowned modern American composers, widely known for his opera, *Nixon in China*. "Shaker Loops" provided a stark contrast to "Elegy." While "Elegy" was slow and deliberate, "Shaker Loops" was wrought with tension, speed, and crisis.

Melodic and sweeping, the third piece of the evening, "Missouri Dreamscape," again marked a change from the previous two. While the title itself provides sentiment behind the work, the melody suggested a vision of a faraway and unfamiliar land. "Missouri Dreamscape" was intriguing and searching. The composer, Andrew List, explained that his home state is Missouri and stated, "It's a spiritual and subconscious interpretation of how I feel when I'm there."

Jeffery Cotton referred to the next piece as "150 stupid violin tricks" and that "each variation is more outrageous than the last." Indeed, Henryk Wieniawski's "Original Variations" was intended to be played by an extraordinarily gifted violinist. Tricia Park played a skilled but passionate solo, and the audience found her performance one of the most riveting of the night. Although she was initially jarring in blue sequined dress (against the stark black of the rest of the orchestra), her outfit soon faded into the background as her performance became more and more complex and challenging.

The concluding piece of the evening was Tchaikovsky's "Serenade in C minor," which was composed during the same period as his more famous "1812 Overture." "Serenade," an intimate and charming piece, was Tchaikovsky's clear favorite of the two. The second movement transformed itself from a whirling dance to a slow promenade, incorporating all the essential elements of a melodic waltz. The finale proved that the orchestra was in full blossom and that the orchestra has a clear grasp of more traditional chamber music. It united technical mastery, skill, and artistic zeal — elements the audience could only hear fragments of in other pieces. In short, the Metamorphosen Chamber Orchestra is nothing less than stunning.

CONCERT REVIEW

The Ptolemy Players Concert B-sides

Some Bright B's and Some Flat B's



JON WANG—THE TECH

Violinist Vivian Lin and flutist Ole Mattis Nielsen, along with trumpetist Steven Tistaert and oboist Rossana Acosta (not pictured) soloed in the Ptolemy Players' Friday night performance of the Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 2.

By Bogdan Fedeles

STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, the Ptolemy Players presented their fall concert in the intimate atmosphere of Killian Hall. The concert, funded in part by the Council for the Arts at MIT, featured classical selections written by composers whose last name begins with the letter 'B.' To bring the title theme to an extreme, all the pieces chosen have at least one movement in B or B-flat. Pieces by Bach, Brahms, and Beethoven, interspersed with songs by Britten, Byrd, and the Beatles enchanted the enthusiastic audience, although some of the performances were not as bright as the title may have implied.

The opening piece was Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No. 2," which celebrates the 250th anniversary of Bach's death (or rather it has been 251 years since Bach died in July 1750). One of the most difficult pieces for piccolo trumpet, the piece was handled admirably by an ensemble made up of 2 violins, viola, cello, double bass, flute, oboe, trumpet, and harpsichord. A new presence in Killian Hall, the harpsichord intensely revived the spirit of baroque music with dry, unsettling arpeggios and scales. The other instruments were also played in a baroque style (almost no vibrato on strings and flute, and very precise intonation), adding to the overall detached, yet joyful atmosphere of the piece. Steven Tistaert delivered a very convincing trumpet solo, especially in the last movement of the concerto.

"The Flower Songs" by Benjamin Britten followed, performed by an eight-singer chorus. The contemporary approach in terms of harmony and form was quite obvious when the composer represented the poetic phrases with musical imagery. The vocalists sang very well, delivering coherent and lyrical performances of these unusual pieces. However, some of the passages sounded weak, lacking some brilliance and energy.

Brahms' Sextet no.1, op. 18 for strings is a marvelous work written in a very clear style that combines classical form and rigor with the exuberance of romantic harmonic means. Sadly, the performance did not rise to the level that this piece demands. The players used vibrato extensively, which blurred some of the passages, and failed to produce grasping lyrical phrases. Also, the sound cohesion of the sextet was rarely achieved, and many of the entrances were unsure. Thus, the clarity of the attacks were compromised. However, in the last two movements the phrasing improved, and the finale achieved some momentum that ended the rather unconvincing performance in a more brilliant fashion.

After the intermission, the chorus resumed the concert with two church-themed songs by William Byrd. The more conventional harmony highlighted an accurate technique, and the singers handled the intricate canonical passages of the songs well. Moreover, the melodic lines had a very nice flow and intonation, as the voices of the sopranos and altos alternated with a well-sung moving bass line of the tenor and basses.

Out of the blue, an unusual performance of the Beatles' song "For No One" followed, which left the audience quite surprised. The performance was original, given the choice of instruments (harpsichord, French horn, small drum, and electric bass), but it was completely misplaced in the context of the concert. The Beatles clearly have nothing to do with all the other composers featured in the program. The gap in style, attitude, and message of the music between "For No One" and the rest of the pieces was too big.

The last piece of the concert was Beethoven's String Quartet op. 130 no. 5. One of the late quartets by Beethoven, it features romantic elements distilled in a classical, highly rigorous approach to music. The unusual six movements of the piece alternate sonata forms with dances ("alla Tedesca") and folk songs inspired lullabies ("Cavatina"). This difficult piece was given a very good, though not outstanding, performance by a quartet of players. The articulation was very convincing, and the dynamics fully illustrated the intent of the composer. The highly lyrical slow movement featured full sonorities due to a calm vibrato and soft bowing. The last movement was performed with accurately marked beats and soft accompaniment, on top of which a wild folk-like theme was energetically articulated.

The program of the concerto featured the usual quirks of the Ptolemy Players: the hieroglyphic title, the funny disclaimers about some of the performances and pieces, and a very difficult 'B' quiz. The concert was followed with 'B' food at a short reception hosted by the organizers. While all these original elements are usually welcome, they may have been a bit over-the-top for this particular evening, and the audience was left confused.

MUSIC REVIEW

Out There Live

Dar Williams Is Out There

By Vanessa Selbst

Recorded during her sold-out tour for *Green World*, *Out There Live* is Dar Williams' first live album, which is well earned after four studio albums. On the *Green World* tour she played with Steuart Smith (guitarist for Shawn Colvin), Gail Ann Dorsey (bassist for David Bowie), Jeff Kazee (keyboardist for Southside Johnny) and Steve Holley (drummer for Paul McCartney and Joe Cocker). *Out There Live*, which takes its name from William's song, "Are You Out There?" includes songs from all four albums — *The Honesty Room*, *Mortal City*, *End of the Summer*, and *Green World*. *Out There Live* is a result of her growing success; her first four albums sold over 500,000 copies.

The album begins with "As Cool as I Am," a hit single from Williams' second album, *Mortal City*. A slightly faster paced version than the one on the album, the old favorite is about William's adventures at a lesbian bar where she "didn't like the love, [she] liked the climate." "As Cool as I Am" makes for a lively opening. "If I Wrote You" and "Spring Street" provide diversity from among Williams' albums, coming from *End of the Summer* and *Green World* respectively. After "Spring Street," Williams shares an anecdote about the inspiration from the next song, "I Won't Be Your Yoko Ono." With wit and reminiscence, Williams tells of her Wesleyan

days, when there was "peer pressure to be avant-garde." Finally there is an album that allows the listener to experience the personality that makes Williams' concerts so unique.

"Better Things" features accompaniments by Steuart Smith and Gail Ann Dorsey. Williams takes full advantage of her band, and the harmony is unmatched in everything solo that she's done to date. In other songs, the instrumental accompaniment provided by the band adds a new dimension to the music. In certain songs, however, such as "Iowa," it is apparent that Williams is more comfortable singing with only her guitar; and at times her voice competes with the instruments. Thus, the song is not as smooth as the studio versions.

The whole album has a calmer overtone than Williams' studio albums. However, in "When I Was a Boy," the slower beat lulls the listener, making it difficult to appreciate the wit within the lyrics. Her anecdotes, including one about her babysitter's performance as the inspiration for the song "The Babysitter's Here," are witty and heartfelt, making the album even more unique and personal than her studio albums.

Overall, the live album just adds something new to Williams' repertoire. *Out There Live* provides a wonderful balance between the brilliance of Williams' lyrics, beauty of her voice, and insight into her life's experiences. Dar Williams will be playing at HMV in Cambridge on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

CONCERT REVIEW

Lifehouse Rocks the House

Acoustic and A Capella Numbers Highlight Show

By Pey-Hua Hwang

STAFF WRITER

Lifehouse had the crowding cheering even before the lights came on at a packed Avalon Ballroom on Wednesday, September 26. The group played a solid set with lots of variations on the songs from their sole released album, as well as a couple of new numbers.

Michelle Branch opened the evening, singing "Sweet Misery" and strumming a blue acoustic guitar. Only eighteen years old, Branch continually expressed surprise at fan adoration and even dedicated one of her songs to one of the fans. She was charmingly personable, saying "Boston's been my favorite city," and begging the audience not to tell her hometown Arizona about it. She told the audience she would "teach you guys a little rock 101," and then delivered with the energy and gusto of "Everywhere." "Everywhere" stayed within her strongest vocal range and was easiest to hear; the effect of a cold on her voice hindered the higher and lower extremes of her range. She ended her set with "Something to Sing To" and exited the stage calling out, "Thank you guys! You rock!"

The Calling had a slightly harder, less pop/rock feel. The diminutive lead singer had an enormous voice reminiscent of Creed lead singer Scott Stapp's deep, throaty bass, as well as an amazingly clear falsetto. The band began the set with "Unstoppable," and didn't stop rocking until their last song, "Wherever You Will Go." "Adrienne," their most intense piece, featured frantic guitar strumming and some memorable guitar and bass solos.

Lifehouse began their set with their most recent radio smash, "Sick Cycle Carousel." With barely a pause to breathe they launched into the angst-ridden "Cling and Clatter." Lead guitarist Joerg Kohring traded improvisations with both lead singer/guitarist Jason Wade and bassist Sergio Andrade. Kohring, a newcomer to the band's usual three-man line-up, could have easily misled a fan into thinking the band had four members instead of three. Wade, wearing a green Boston t-shirt, addressed the crowd with surprisingly assured stage presence for a relatively new band, saying "This is the first time I've busted out a vintage Boston t-shirt in Boston...I don't know if I'm gonna [wear a shirt with the city's name] in any other city."

After two more moody electric guitar pieces, "Unknown," and "Only One," Lifehouse gave the crowd a taste of a new song from their second album, scheduled for release some time around Christmas 2002. The new song, "Climb," was a stark departure from the down to earth tones of their first album, *No Name Face*. A highly polished tune

with synthesizer overtones but lacking the melodic complexity of *No Name Face*, "Climb" is reminiscent of the title track of the movie "That Thing You Do."

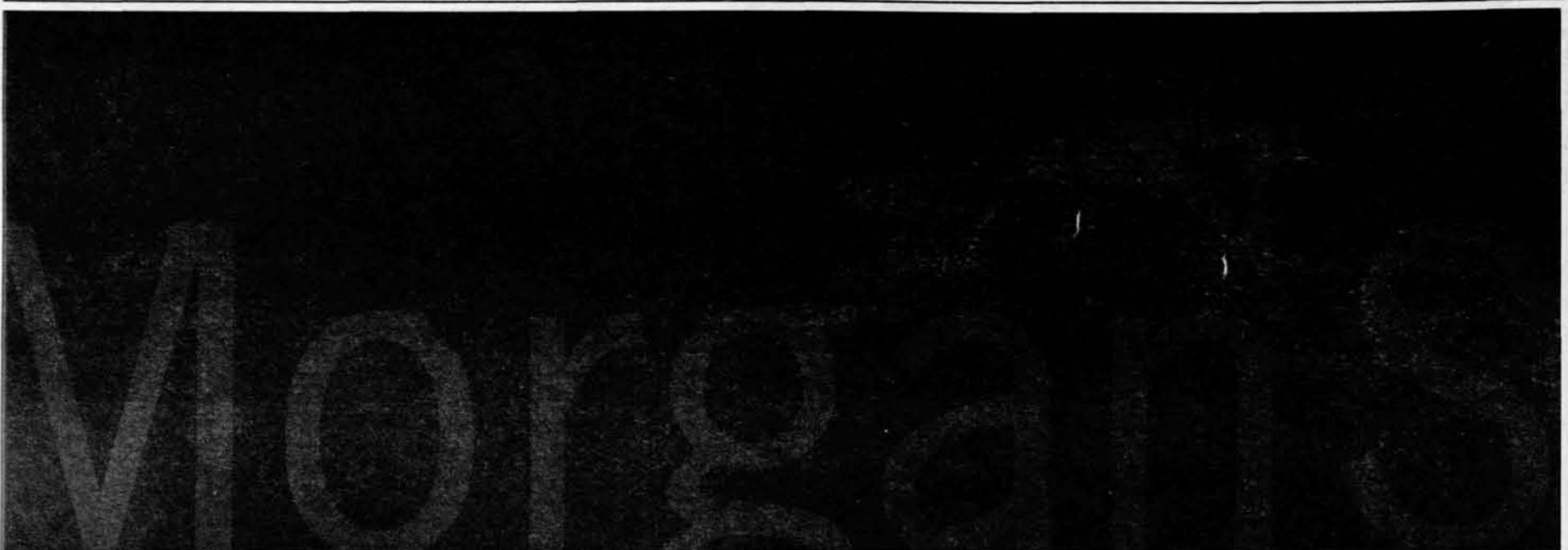
"Somewhere In Between" and "Trying" had the crowd waving lighters in the air and featured Wade on acoustic guitar and drummer Rick Wulstenhulme on the bongos. Wade commented that "Trying," a song of personal importance to him, was the product of long walks in the woods. The brushes used by Wulstenhulme on the bongos supported Wade's soul-searching vocals with a hushed, peaceful beat. Kohring played the occasional chord on the guitar or key notes on the mandolin.

The mood stayed mellow for "Breathing," but the band returned to electric instruments and gradually raised energy levels as they ended the piece with heavy bass reverb. Wade introduced the other members of the band and launched into a piece filled with heavy bass and growling guitar chords. The passage was an unrecognizable introduction to "Hanging By A Moment." The crowd went into a frenzy and turned the ubiquitous piece into the biggest sing-along of the night.

Riding on the momentum of "Hanging By A Moment," the band played another new song. The untitled number was exponentially better than the first new song and a likely candidate for a single off the upcoming album, with catchy lyrics like, "I've heard a lot and it's never enough...It keeps me needing you." After playing fan favorite "Everything," the band left the stage.

When they returned Wade thanked the audience and sang "Quasimodo," the only song of the evening on which Wade did not play the guitar. He used the increased mobility to work the crowd and touch the hands of fans in the front row. He seemed unaccustomed to not holding a guitar, holding the microphone in both hands and needing an entire minute to get into the song. His voice strained slightly on some of the higher notes, but it returned to its original fullness as he extended the last line of the piece. Subtle yet commanding, the last song of the night was "Simon." This piece took advantage of Wade's husky lower register and recalled the power of the two acoustic pieces of the night.

Several songs highlighted the standalone quality of Wade's voice. In "Somebody Else's Song," he sang a whole verse a capella. He dispelled any lingering doubts of his vocal capacity and ear for musical intonation by singing the introduction to "Somewhere In Between" a capella. Wade didn't even need to alter his pitch to match the guitar in the chorus.



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UNITED STATES POLICY OPTIONS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE CRISIS
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MIDDLE EASTERN PERSPECTIVES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

(Informal dinners for interested students, faculty and staff will follow each Teach-In)

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STANLEY HU—THE TECH

Members of the women's field hockey team rush to congratulate Courtney R. Esinhart '03, far right, for scoring on a penalty shot in Saturday's game against Springfield College. Although Esinhart's goal broke the shutout in the final seconds of the game, Springfield dominated on offense, winning 5-1.



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After Terrorist Attack, Airline Security Tight

Airlines, from Page 1

heard that you should arrive at the airport approximately two to two and a half hours before your departure time. This is due to the fact that curb-side baggage checks and checking in at the gate no longer exist.

I arrived at the airport about an hour before my departure time on my way to Washington. Still, I had time to browse through the newspaper stand before my flight started boarding. I did not check any bags, but I doubt that it would have been much different if I had. At Logan airport, there was a line by the counter where people who had bags to check stood to get them inspected. The inspection took place at a large table, where airline security went through the bags while their owners watched. There were no such inspections at Dulles or Newark airports.

Only ticketed passengers are allowed past the security check. I was surprised to see the dramatic decrease in the number of people in the terminals. Not only was the terminal barren, but there was also a paucity of people flying; on my return trip to Boston from Newark, the Boeing 737 was only half-filled.

Also, picture IDs are required whenever you have to show your ticket to check in, to get past the security check, and to board the airplane. I think that the airport security was so focused on making sure that you were who you said you were that it is quite possible that they could have overlooked some other things. For example, on each of my four flights, the flight attendant asked whether everyone was on the correct flight least twice before we pushed off the runway. I have to say that these announcements did nothing to ease my mind about safety.

Airlines ban simple hygiene items

The list of contraband items prohibited from taking on an airplane has grown to include tweezers, disposable razors, and toenail clippers among other things, so forget maintaining a high level of personal hygiene when flying. Also, I would like to see how someone could hijack a plane with tweezers; I suppose it would be a menacing threat to the "uni-brow" population. I have

to admit that I knowingly went through the security check with a disposable razor in my luggage. However, I am not sure if I necessarily felt better knowing that I had gotten away with it after I realized that if I could, there were probably many others who had, too.

I have to admit that despite all the new security procedures, I still wondered if we were really safe. I almost wished that the airline officials would frisk me and go through my bags for having a disposable razor, or question me about my outdated South Carolina drivers license picture which was taken four years ago, when I had bangs, glasses and braces. I still think that if someone really wanted to terrorize the country, they still could. Perhaps they might think twice before trying to hijack an airplane now, but what about a year from now? Or five years? Will the new security measures stay indefinitely, or will they slowly fade away to what they were before? The whole situation makes me think of a quote from my high school science teacher. "Make it idiot-proof, and someone will invent a better idiot."

The most disturbing part of my trip had nothing to do with a terrorist, but a normal citizen. On my flight from Boston to Newark, I was somewhat disconcerted when a middle-aged Arab man took his seat approximately a minute before they closed the cabin doors and departed from the terminal. The same thing happened on my trip back from Newark to Boston with a group of foreigners who seemed quite irritated when they got onto the plane. I suspect that airport security must have singled these people out for further security checks due to their racial background. I can't say that realizing this made me feel any safer at all.

On my return flight to Newark, the multitude of New York skyscrapers seemed just a jumble without the focal point of the World Trade Towers. Many things have changed in the past few weeks. In some ways, the attacks have united us as a nation, but we've lost part of our innocence and sense of security. The question of whether we feel comfortable flying is just one of many that we have to ask ourselves as we reassess our priorities.

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Wireless Ethernet In Use For Classes

Wireless, from Page 1

it even more of a problem," says Chris Sae-Hau '02. "Giving people Internet access — you can't really regulate what they're doing, so it probably can't be all that productive."

"I think it's an amazing technology, but I'm not sure if there's any use for it in the actual classroom," said Aimee R. Ginley '03. "Why do you need Internet access in your class?"

Still, some students have already found the technology useful. "I do keep it open during lecture and it has been useful to look up a formula or a fact," said Michael F. Lin '05. "Of course, I also get instant messages from my friends."

Original plans scaled back

The wireless deployment team has been active for nearly seven months now, but the current plan represents a slightly scaled-down version of more ambitious coverage plans proposed by Provost Robert A. Brown. High costs were cited in the decision to scale back service. Currently, the vast majority of the access points are fully operational. Through the use of left-over funds, more access points will be added as network traffic increases in certain areas.

However, due to limited access speed, "Wireless will never be considered a replacement for wired Ethernet," said Thomas C. Murphy, wireless team leader. "It's not meant to move large files around." Still, at 11 megabits/second, it provides ample speed for common Internet tasks such as e-mail and web surfing.

MIT Information Services noted that very few problems have been reported to date. The pilot program in Sloan also proved highly successful. In addition to the wireless access maintained by MIT, individuals and fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups may set up their own wireless networks to be compatible with MIT's network. A complete list of the classrooms and libraries that offer wireless access can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/network/wireless-locations.html>.



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Finboard Adjusts Allocations

By Brian Loux
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Undergraduate Association Financial Board recently completed the fall appeals process, increasing total allocations to student groups to \$42,210. A new funding policy, however, allocates more funds than Finboard can actually support.

Over the past four years, the Office of the Dean for Student Life has doubled the funds given to student organizations such as Finboard. However, student groups are often conservative about spending their funds for the year, and many are not fully aware of their financial situation. As a result, groups usually end up with money left over.

"The extra money returns to the UA, and piles up with us as a surplus," said Finboard Vice Chair Jennifer Li '02. "There was some debate over how to use the extra funds, but we eventually decided that we would over-allocate to the groups, in hopes that the money they spend would in actuality make them break even. It's a little risky, but it should allow us to spend all the money we're given."

"Everybody pretty much knew that we would be over-allocating our funds this term," Li said. "The stu-

dent group treasurers were on the ball about our intentions, and the situation worked out quite well. We gave out all the money we could." Most appeals were approved unanimously.

The success or failure of this new policy will not be clear for some time, given its infancy. "We've only started this policy a year ago," Li said. "We have tracked it and have found good news, but it is far too early to draw a trend."

Finboard noticed a dramatic decline in the surplus in the spring of 2001, but Li explained this by saying that most student groups spend more on activities in the spring.

The results of the allocations can be found online at <<http://web.mit.edu/finboard/www>>.

Preliminary database in progress

Finboard, the Graduate Student Council, and the Association of Student Activities are continuing to develop a web site that will eventually computerize all records for the three organizations.

The ASA has broken ground on moving their present database "SetupASA," which contains all pertinent records for each student group, to a web site. "The database is how the all the officers get the

necessary information and paperwork for their groups," said ASA Treasurer Philip B. Tan G. "We are presently moving that to a web system instead of our text database."

"We hope to have SetupASA onto a full Oracle database around the end of the term," said Alvar Saenz Otero G, who is working on the project with Tan. "Right now it seems we will make our initial goal of the end of this term, but we will have to see how the term goes."

The ASA transition is actually the first stage in a larger project. The ultimate goal is for the UA, GSC, and the ASA to create one web page from which all student group officers can manage their administrative affairs.

The first step will be the creation of the ASA's web database, which will serve as a guinea pig for the future web databases. Next, approval for putting financial and administrative data online must be obtained from the Dean of Residential Life and Student Life Programs. The third step will be to link the three databases all together under one site to be accessible by the ASA home page. Saenz Otero said the ASA hopes to have all three groups on the same database within a year.



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A/C System Still Has Glitches

Dedication, from Page 1

the rooms. One type works fine, but there are problems with the other one. Most of them don't work at all," said Anthony E. Gray PhD '01, a Residential Life Associate.

"This is just a matter of balancing the air in each radiator, and may take couple of weeks, but is not something of major significance or long-term inconvenience" said Jack Ahern, the house manager.

Residents enjoy new community

Despite the ongoing work, most

students are excited about living in The Warehouse.

"What I love about here is its ability to form a community. Even the architecture helps this purpose," Natarajan said.

"While finding comfortable and affordable accommodation is a difficult task for graduate students, opening of this new Residential Hall is a great achievement," said Christina E Silcox G, the house president, in her speech at the dedication. "Living on campus is an MIT experience. Suddenly MIT is not only a place where your lab is,

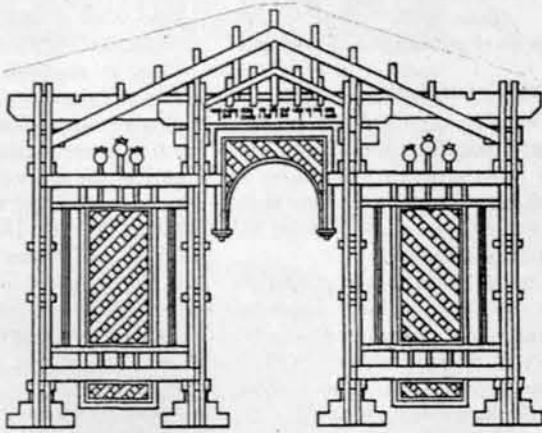
but it becomes a home. Students have created a community already in NW30. This is evident from in the way they supported each other through the tragedy of two weeks ago."

Apart from its brick walls, the building, a renovated warehouse formerly known as Building NW30, is scarcely recognizable as its former self.

"The planning started about 18 months ago but the actual construction started only last year. It has been a very tight schedule for a project of this size," Lerman said.

Visit the MIT Sukkah*

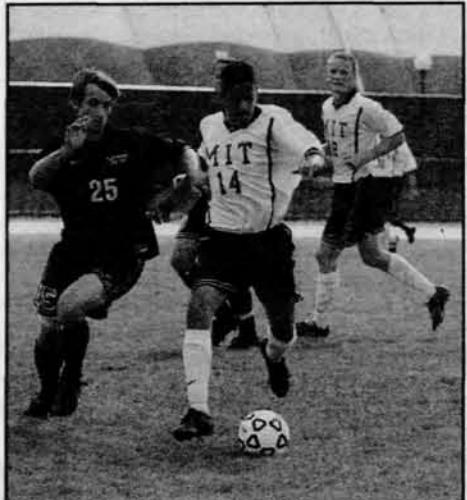
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* A sukkah is a temporary structure built for the Jewish holiday of Sukkot

Adan M. Mandujano '05 steals the ball from a State University of New York-Plattsburgh player at last Saturday's soccer game. MIT tied SUNY 1-1 in overtime.



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Solution to Crossword

from page 7

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Kanamori Victorious

Hopes to Improve School Spirit at Institute

Elections, from Page 1

Kanamori looks forward to activities promoting school spirit. He said that MIT students are very dedicated to their own activities, but not enough people go watch arts and sports events on campus.

He said that after seeing ten people attending a play and one person watching a soccer game, he realized that "one thing the school's not showing is school spirit."

"I'm thinking about a class formal to bring everyone together," Kanamori said.



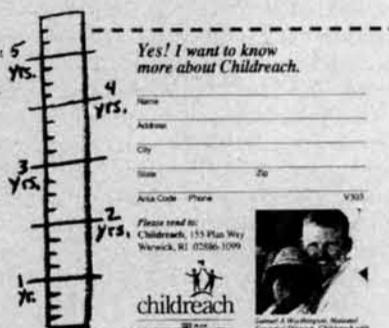
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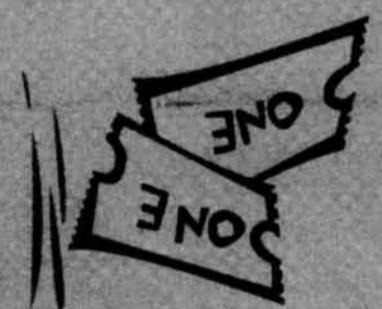
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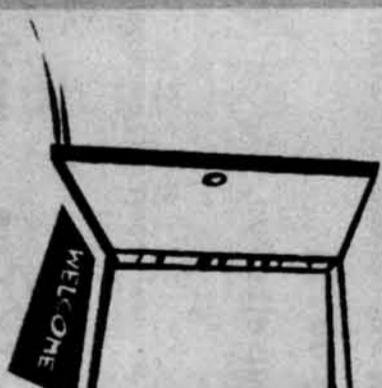


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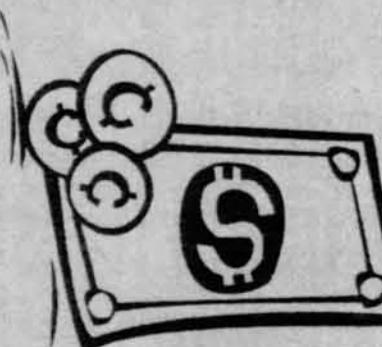
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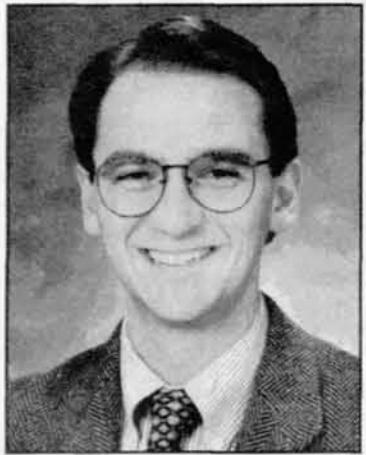
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Tuesday, October 9th at 12:00Noon

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Book Discussion, Signing & Demonstration –
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Using a program that emulated the basic principles of Darwinian evolution, David B. Fogel's computer program Blondie24 was able to discover on its own how to excel at the game of checkers. In *Blondie24*, he reveals the revolutionary thinking machine he co-created and gives a fascinating look at artificial intelligence.

Fittingly happening in the year that Arthur C. Clarke predicted we would succeed in creating a thinking machine, Blondie24 was able to earn a spot in the top 500 of an international checkers website. Fogel describes how, with only the most rudimentary information programmed into its "brain," Blondie24 created a means of evaluating the changing pieces that make up the game.

As part of the Author Series at the M.I.T. Coop, David B. Fogel will discuss and sign *Blondie24* on Tuesday, October 9th at 12:00Noon. He will demonstrate Blondie's abilities and offer the audience a chance to challenge her skills. All events are free & open to the public.



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14.03 Grades Upped

Department Overrules Visiting Professor

By Helana Kadyszewski

All 70 students who were enrolled in Applied Intermediate Microeconomics (14.03) last spring will receive a third-of-a-point boost in their final term grades.

The decision to adjust the final grades, which was made by Course XIV (Economics) Department Head and Professor Olivier Blanchard, came after three students enrolled in 14.03 filed complaints alleging that visiting professor Wallace Mullin PhD '92, an associate professor of economics from Michigan State University, had graded them unfairly. Blanchard received the complaints via e-mail from students over the summer and early this fall.

After reviewing the individual cases with Mullin, the two agreed that, indeed, Mullin had graded based on a distribution with a lower mean than was normally seen in 14.03. In concert, Mullin and Blanchard decided that the swiftest way to remedy the situation was to raise each student's grade by a third of a point. The decision was made entirely within the Economics Department.

On September 17, Blanchard notified students of the grade adjustment in an e-mail to 14.03 students. He said that the adjustment will raise grades from a B to a B+ and a B+ to an A-, and so forth. Blanchard called the change "a rough adjustment, but the only feasible and fair way of doing something at this late stage."

The adjustment should be reflected in student records on WebSIS in the near future. However, plus/minus grading is still only an

internal MIT system; only the prefix letter grade is counted toward one's grade point average or reported on external transcripts.

Elie Krevat '02, whose complaint to Professor Mullin went unanswered, wrote to Blanchard early this term. "I commend Professor Blanchard for his prompt investigation into this matter and am grateful for his decision," she said. "I gather that many of the students in the class who did not register complaints felt as I did and also welcome the adjustment."

Grade adjustment unprecedented

Both Blanchard and Course XIV Undergraduate Administrator Gary J. King remarked that the decision was unprecedented. "These were special circumstances," King said. "Mullin was a visiting professor who had an apparently different grading distribution in mind. We don't expect to face similar situations in the future."

Mullin, a faculty research fellow in the Program in Industrial Organization, National Bureau of Economic Research, was unavailable for comment. He is currently serving as a senior economist with the Council of Economic Advisers in Washington, D.C.

In their end-of-term evaluations of the class, 27 of his students gave Mullin an above average overall rating. However, Mullin's marks in the area of grading were unsatisfactory, registering 3.4 on a seven point scale.

14.03 is a required 12-unit subject for undergraduates majoring in economics. It is also a HASS Elective.

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